S3 cont'd

storing the image data together with the character data in the corresponding frame for each type.

S4

56. (Three times amended) A computer program for a computer, comprising software codes for performing the following steps:

obtaining an image by scanning a sheet:

obtaining character data from the image by performing character recognition on the image;

determining types of the character data obtained in said character recognition;

controlling a display of said image together with the character data arranged in a plurality of frames corresponding to each determined type of character; and

storing the image data together with the character data in the corresponding frame for each type.

REMARKS

Claims 31-34, 36, 37, 39-50, 55 and 56 are presented for examination. Claims 31, 55 and 56, the independent claims, and Claim 32, have been amended to define more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention; it should be noted that the changes made to these claims are merely to clarify the claim language, and is neither intended nor believed to narrow the scope of any claim.

Claims 31-33, 36, 37, 39-41, 43, 49, 50, 55 and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,720,707 (Konishi et al.), and Claims 34, 42 and 44-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from *Konishi* in view of U.S. Patent 4,670,791 (Murata et al.).

The present invention is directed to a multi-function apparatus, which among other features can perform character-recognition processing on an input body of text.

More particularly, independent Claim 31 is directed to an information processing apparatus that comprises means for obtaining an image by scanning a sheet, and means for obtaining character data from the image by performing character recognition on the image. The apparatus also has means for determining types of the character data obtained by the character recognition means, as well as a display controller that controls a display of the image together with the character data arranged in a plurality of frames corresponding to each of the types determined by the determining means, and memory for storing the image together with the character data in the corresponding frame for each type.

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Office Action and the prior art, but finds himself entirely unable to agree that Claim 31 is unpatentable over that art. For the following reasons, Applicant believes very strongly that the apparatus recited in Claim 31 is clearly distinguishable from *Konishi*.

Konishi relates to a display apparatus using magnetic toner, the apparatus displaying two images simultaneously by using the two belts 109A and 109B, as shown in Fig. 6. The Office Action asserts that *Konishi* describes the same feature as the "character

recognition means" recited in Claim 31, at col. 5, lines 51-55. However, this assertion is based on a misreading of *Konishi*.

Konishi teaches a page image of a text portion being stored in RAMs 42, 43 and 44, and a page image of a drawing portion being stored in RAMs 45 and 46. The *Konishi* apparatus only displays one of the images stored in RAMs 42 to 44 on the first area, and one of the images stored in RAMs 45 to 47. That is, *Konishi* discloses storing an image in RAM, and in fact nothing in that patent discloses or suggests performing character recognition on an image.

In addition, as described at col. 5, lines 56-57, and col. 6, lines 3-4, *Konishi* describes that the object stored in RAMs 42-44 is only the image of the text portion, and that the object stored in RAMs 45-47 is only the image of the drawing portion. That is, *Konishi* relates to handling the image, and does not actually handle any character data obtained through character recognition. In particular, the *Konishi* apparatus does not determine the type of character data obtained through character recognition.

Furthermore, the *Konishi* apparatus displays the page image stored in RAMs 42-44 on a first area, and displays the image stored in RAMs 45-47 on a second area. Even if the display area is determined on the basis of where the image is stored, however, that does not teach or suggest displaying character data in a frame corresponding to the type of the character data, as recited in Claim 31.

Accordingly, Claim 31 is believed to be clearly allowable over *Konishi*.

Independent Claims 55 and 56 are method and computer memory medium claims, respectively, corresponding to apparatus Claim 31, and are believed to be patentable for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with Claim 31.

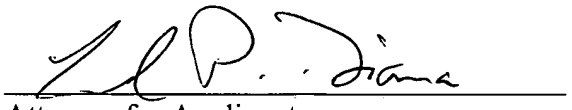
A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from Claim 31, and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

31. (Four times amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

obtaining means for obtaining an image by scanning a sheet;

character recognition means for obtaining character data from the image by performing character recognition on the image;

determining means for determining types of the character data obtained by said character recognition means;

a display controller that controls a display of the image together with the character data arranged in a plurality of frames corresponding to each of the types determined by said determining means; and

memory for storing the image together with the character data in the corresponding frame for each type.

32. (Three times amended) An apparatus according to Claim 31, wherein the image and the plurality of frames are displayed [side-by] side by side.

55. (Four times amended) An information processing method comprising the steps of:

obtaining an image by scanning a sheet:

obtaining character data from the image by performing character recognition on the image;

determining types of the character data obtained in said character recognition;

controlling a display of said image together with the character data arranged in a plurality of frames corresponding to each determined type of character; and

storing the image data together with the character data in the corresponding frame for each type.

56. (Three times amended) A computer program for a computer, comprising software codes for performing the following steps:

obtaining an image by scanning a sheet:

obtaining character data from the image by performing character recognition on the image;

determining types of the character data obtained in said character recognition;

controlling a display of said image together with the character data arranged in a plurality of frames corresponding to each determined type of character; and

storing the image data together with the character data in the corresponding frame for each type.